(c) the total outstanding liabilities of these units to banks and other financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the latest available report as at the end of March, 1996, the position of industrial sickness in the country and the outstanding bank credit is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

	Category	No. of units	Outstanding Bank Credit
1.	SSI Sick	262376	3721.94
2.	Non-SSI Sick	1956	8823.19
3.	Non-SSI Weak	418	1203.12
	TOTAL :	2,64,750	13,748. 25

The data on aggregate book value/current market value of capital assets locked up in sick/closed units is not centrally maintained.

Misuse of Scheduled Caste Act by some states

*272. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scheduled Caste Act has been misused in some States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) The State Government of Assam, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and the UT Admn. of Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh and Lakshawdeep have stated that the Scheduled Caste Act has not been misused in their respective State/UT. The State Govt. of Maharashtra has informed that sometimes cases were filed by the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on extraneous consideration under the PCR Act and the SCs and STs (POA) Act. Govt. of Maharashtra has decided to recommend to the Courts, as per provisions laid down in Sec. 321 of the Criminal Procedure Code withdrawals of prosecutions based on alleged offences of trivial nature wherein no loss of life, or property or offences of serious nature were involved.

Coal based power plants

*273. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal based power plants in the country;